

## Call for Participation: IJIS Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy (FIGG) Task Force Submission Deadline: 5 PM (ET), March 8th, 2024

This Call for Participation (CFP) is an invitation to the IJIS Institute's Forensic Investigative Genetic Genealogy Task Force (FIGG TF).

Task forces are constituted to provide input and recommendations to the Institute and to other organizations on specific topical areas related to a single short-term project or task. All Members with related skills and interests (refer to the skills required section in this CFP) are encouraged to serve on this Task Force. Task Force leadership ideally constitutes representatives from the public and the private sectors to provide a balanced perspective on the areas of interest.

Interested participants should send a copy of their resume and a letter of interest to Phil Dunphy at phil.dunphy@ijis.org by the close of business on <u>March 8th, 2024.</u>

**Task Force Mission:** The IJIS FIGG Task Force, under the guidance of the IJIS Law Enforcement Advisory Committee (I-LEAC), will address the proper use case of FIGG by criminal justice agencies and the private sector by providing useful information to help make important decisions on utilizing FIGG. The Task Force will also address privacy, security, training, and policy development around the use of FIGG in solving violent crimes and identifying unidentified human remains.

**Task Force Objectives:** The FIGG Task Force's objective is to enhance the positive use of FIGG by criminal justice professionals within the boundaries of current or newly developed policies, rules, and regulations. *Firstly, the Task Force will focus on developing a catalog of use cases, collecting federal, state and local policies and best practices, and developing model policy language for FIGG that best supports the public interest in safety and data privacy. Secondly, the Task Force will tackle issues such as how local, state and federal law enforcement agency personnel receive training on advancements in DNA as an investigative tool, identify funding sources, conduct capacity planning for personnel to support incorporating this tool into standard operating procedures, define the legal parameters for the application of FIGG and the expectations on how the industry expects these parameters to evolve. The task force will accomplish these tasks by publishing white papers, position papers, webinars, podcasts, seminars, meetings, and training sessions to facilitate sustainable processes that enhance the understanding of FIGG usage by criminal justice professionals for all interested stakeholders.* 

**Task Force Composition and Member Responsibilities:** The FIGG task force will be composed of a chairperson, a vice-chairperson, a secretary, and Task Force members from the IJIS Collaboration Network representing public sector practitioners from multiple domains, private sector member organizations, constituent organizations, academia, policymakers, and others. Any individual with skills and experience that will assist the FIGG task force in achieving its identified mission in this effort or maintains an interest in this dynamic and important subject area, is welcome to join by submitting a response to the regular calls for participation issued by the Task Force. All IJIS Committees and Task Forces conduct monthly conference calls. To maintain membership in the Task Force, individuals are required to attend 8 of the 10 scheduled calls each year, attend a minimum of one of the two scheduled in-person meetings each year, and coordinate and produce work products which will consist of white papers, webinar sessions, conference presentations, convening roundtables and



**Participation Requirements and Skills Needed:** Understanding of DNA analysis and genealogy research, working experience in the Criminal Justice subfields like **complex death and cold cases, medicolegal death investigation,** forensic laboratory knowledge and experience, privacy and security expertise, and data protection experience.

The IJIS Institute seeks Law enforcement FIGG practitioners, industry technology providers of end-to-end products; genealogists with demonstrated case successes, national law enforcement practice associations, academia with FIGG programs with primarily law enforcement students, published forensic DNA experts, and legislators with interest/experience in data privacy and/or forensics and IT experts on data security who are uniquely qualified to identify business and operational challenges.

To respond to this CFP, please provide your resume and explanation of interest (limit 300 words) to phil.dunphy@ijis.org no later than 5 PM (ET) on March 8th, 2024.